

Amendment and Response
Appln No. 10/615,358
KPG No. 01240/01241US
Page 10 of 11

REMARKS

The above-listed claim amendments along with the following remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action set forth above. Claims 7, 27, and 58 are amended. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1-67 are pending. No new matter is introduced into the application by the claim amendments.

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-6, 12-26, 32-57, and 63-67 are allowed.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Gilliam for a brief telephone interview with Sean B. Mahoney on October 27, 2004, in which the definition of the ratio "m" in certain of the pending claims was discussed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 7-11, 27-31, and 58-62 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The Examiner stated that the variable "m" set forth in claims 7, 27, and 58 is not present in the associated Structure A and Structure B. The Examiner therefore rejected claims 7, 27, and 58, and all claims that depend therefrom. The Examiner suggested that claims 7, 27, and 58 should be amended for clarity.

Although Applicants maintain that the original claims are not indefinite, Applicants have agreed to amend claims 7, 27, and 58 to place the claims in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Amendment and Response
Appln No. 10/615,358
KPG No. 01240/01241US
Page 11 of 11

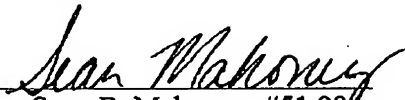
Conclusion

All pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By:


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